

On Course Triumphs in Chapter Publication Contest

“Always the bridesmaid, never the bride.” Just when we who work directly on this magazine were feeling that On Course was destined to be the proverbial bridesmaid, the Susan Lucci of chapter publications—a perpetual contender, occasional runner-up, but never the hallowed winner—word arrived from GCSAA on a frigid day in mid-January that On Course had taken first place in its category in the annual contest.

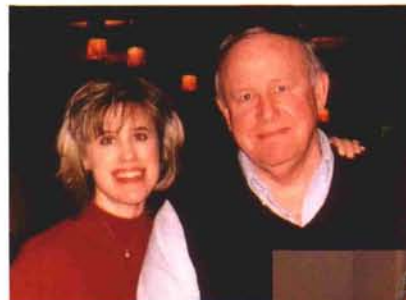


I wasn't stunned that *On Course* should merit this honor. The MAGCS magazine—YOUR magazine—is among the finest of GCSAA chapter publications and has been for many years. I was, however, elated that the MAGCS would finally receive recognition and validation. The award reflects positively on all Midwest members, because YOU own this magazine. You drive and provide the content. You supply the feedback to fine-tune the product. You support it financially via advertising. Through the years, the prevailing belief among those of us who devote so many hours to this magazine was that the most important measure of our success was, and remains, pleasing you by meeting your needs. Receiving an award from GCSAA doesn't change that. But it sure feels good to win!

Thanks to my husband and mother-in-law generously stepping up to help with childcare, I was able to travel to Orlando to attend the editors' workshop and accept the award. Happily, my dad—a longtime MAGCS member and supporter—traveled with me and had a rewarding time on the show floor and in the friendly confines of the hospitality suite. It was a memorable couple of days, and the critiques we received from the contest judges will, as always, guide us in our never-ending quest to make *On Course* even better.

The award from GCSAA bears the editor's name only, but that is because of space constraints. As I noted before, this award belongs to all of YOU, since all of you have contributed directly or indirectly to this publication's success. Whether you have contributed an article, anecdote or photo; purchased advertising; or simply honored us with your readership, THANK YOU! Deepest thanks must also go to the many dedicated MAGCS Presidents and Directors who have fully supported *On Course* with

their vision, interest and contributions—I feel privileged to work for this group of consummate professionals; to the wonderful Editorial Committee members and chairs—Scott Witte being the steward during our victorious 2004 run—who have brainstormed ideas, written stories and extended our reporting network; to our executive director, Luke Cella, for his ideas and insights into how to update and restructure some of our operating procedures; and to my predecessor in the editor's role, Fred Opperman, for a legacy of excellence and his continuing wisdom. Hats off to the individuals who work intimately with the magazine every month: to John Gurke, CGCS, for his outstanding work as contributing editor, frequent writer and the voice of “Bull Sheet;” to Mark Karczewski, our talented and dedicated graphic artist; and to Kurt Paulson, our tremendously helpful production manager at Darwill Press. Last but not least, I want to thank my family, especially my husband for the perpetual encouragement and “vote of confidence,” and my mom and dad for instilling a thirst for excellence and doing my best that motivates me to this day.



Cathy and dad, Tim Miles, at Disney's Boma restaurant.



Phil Zeinert congratulates Cathy on this fine achievement.